

REMARKS

The Office Action of October 1, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and considered. Applicants acknowledge the rejections of Claims 1 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Suzurucha (JP11-19836), and of Claims 2, 4, 7, 11, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Suzurucha in view variously of Johnson (US2004/0104990); Nunokawa (US2004/0145617); Szlucha et al (5742315); Hirai (US2004/0075726); and Bergman et al (US 4,395,036). . Importantly, Applicants are grateful for the indicated allowability of dependent Claims 3, 6, 8-10 and 12 if rewritten in independent form.

In order to advance prosecution of this application towards issuance as a patent, Applicants have amended rejected independent Claim 1 to now include the allowable limitation of allowable dependent Claim 3. Claim 3 is therefore canceled. Since Claim 3 depended directly from Claim 1, independent Claim 1, amended as such, therefore now includes the same limitations, and has the same scope as allowable dependent Claim 3 rewritten in independent form.

It is thus respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 amended as such is therefore now also allowable. Accordingly too, dependent Claims 2, and 3-12, which depend ultimately from Claim 1, are therefore now also allowable.

Applicants further have also amended rejected independent Claim 13 to now also include the allowable limitation of allowable dependent Claim 3.

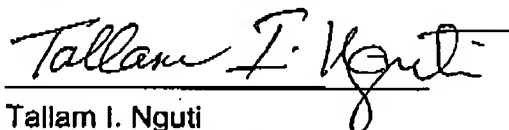
It is thus respectfully submitted that independent Claim 13 amended as such is therefore now also allowable. Accordingly too, dependent Claims 13-16 which depend from Claim 3 are therefore now also allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application with amended Claims 1-2, and 4-16 are respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment, however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call Tallam I. Nguti at Telephone Number 585-423-2477, Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



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